

PRICE, \$15 PER ANNUM.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO
Hongkong, January 11, 1866.

The following impo
been forwarded to u
THE ST.
To the Editor of th
EAST
DEAR SIR,—I be
subserve the intenti
E. the Governor in h

non-official members of the Council are three-fold.

1st.—That it will deprive the Colony of its character as a Free Port.

2nd.—That it is distasteful to the Chinese, who will take their trade elsewhere if the ordinance is made law.

3rd.—That further taxation is not required, or, if the revenue is really insufficient, the most proper and the fairest mode of meeting the deficiency is by raising the police and water rates.

With your permission, Sir, I will endeavour to persuade the Hon. Members that their objections to the Stamp Act are ridiculous and untenable.

First, I should say, Mr. Whitall at the last meeting of Council, Hongkong had been a free port, and it was this circumstance that the prosperity of the Colony was due. His non-official colleagues took up this note, and declared from their experience of the trade of this place that the Stamp Act was calculated to have a most disastrous effect on its commerce. To use the precise words preserved by your contemporary, "Mr. Whitall, Mr. Dent, and Mr. Gibb say, this measure is disastrous, and they protest against it." The Governor ventured to oppose this constellation of politico-mercantile talent; I really think that he will easily bear the responsibility of doing so, for, if the Ordinance were to become law to-morrow the Port would remain as free as ever. It creates no harbour dues, it imposes no customs charges, ships may still come and go exempt from pilotage fees, wharfage rates exist only in imagination—in plain, literal truth the commerce of the Port will remain as unfettered as in the palmiest days of its prosperity. What is it, then, that has thrown these representative gentlemen into such a painful state of excitement? I have carefully looked through the schedule of the Ordinance, and I find that the following stamp duties are proposed:—

Bill of Lading, or acknowledgment of each part, \$0.10
Charter Party for hiring vessel, 1.00
Policy of Insurance, where the premium does not exceed £1, 0.15
Policy of Insurance, where the premium does not exceed £1 and not more than £2, 0.25
Protest of any commander of vessel, 1.00
Notice of intention do, 0.25

There is also a progressive duty on battery bond, and these are literally all the duties in the schedule that can by any possibility be regarded as bearing on shipping; and I confidently put it to the common sense of any ordinarily intelligent man whether they are likely to cause the transference of the trade of the port to Macao or Canton, or to lead to the disastrous effect prophesied by your contemporary. The non-official members are evidently under a misapprehension of the term "free port."

Secondly. As to the alarm that will be created in the Chinese mind by the Stamp Act. While the houses of Dent and Jardine remain in Hongkong, it is not likely that the Chinese will be induced by any obstacles thrown in their way by this Ordinance to diminish their commercial connection with the Colony. That might be endangered by the form of taxation which meets with most favour from the non-official members, and which I now,

Thirdly, proceed to notice. Of the general estimates I shall pronounce no opinion; they may or not have been framed in the most scientific manner. What I as a ratepayer feel is this, that whereas a certain deficiency in the revenue has to be made up by increase of taxation, the non-official merchant members think it equitable, while opposing the Stamp Act upon purely imaginary grounds, to suggest as a substitute for it the doubling our police and water rates. No doubt that would be a much less difficult mode of augmenting the revenue than that available under the Stamp Act; but even a Chinaman might reasonably object that he preferred the Stamp Act, which only taxed him in proportion to business done, to the unvarying pressure of an increased taxation for police—already dear at the present cost, or for water—of which he now consumes as much as he desires. It is not the complexities of the Stamp Act that will puzzle the Chinese, or drive them from the Colony. To advance such an objection to the Ordinance is nonsense just as pure as the assertion that it will discourage commerce, and Mr. Whitall and his non-official friends speculated very strongly either on the ignorance or apathy of the ratepayers when they committed themselves to the opinion that to increase

the water and police rates was the least objectionable mode of increasing the revenue.

I do not say that the Stamp Act is a perfect model of its kind; in some particulars, it may be capable of amendment—placing a duty on a consignor's order, without reference to the nature of the order, whether it is for a leg of mutton for the domestic table, or for the delivery of a cargo at a godown—seems to be straining a point a little too far. But with the general principle of the measure I fully concur, believing that it provides the fairest possible means for meeting our present financial exigencies. I hope His Excellency will persevere with it, and that it will become law. It will at first prove a little troublesome, but a very slight effort of the intelligence for which Hongkong is so remarkable, will enable our merchants and professional men to overcome the difficulty; and they will eventually have the proud satisfaction of knowing that they are contributing their fair share towards sustaining the Colony, and that they are not enjoying a selfish immunity from taxation at an expense of much poorer people.—I am, Sir, yours.

MEMO.

To the Editor of the Evening Mail.

SIR,—Your correspondent "Memo" has drawn upon his fancy for his facts in stating that Mr. Whitall and his non-official colleagues recommended the Governor to increase the revenue of the colony by an addition to the assessed taxes, rather than by a Stamp Act. On the contrary, these gentlemen argued that no fresh taxation was necessary, and that any such would be most unjust in the face of the Military Contribution, a thing that if, unfortunately, a small deficit should occur in 1867, it might be met by either a temporary loan, or an addition to the Police-rate.

Mr. Whitall did, however, most decidedly object to the Stamp Act, and I heartily agree with him.—Yours obediently.

BOSTONIAN.

THE STAMP ACT AND MR WHITTALL.

SIR,—"Bostonian" says I must have drawn upon my fancy for my facts in stating that Mr. Whitall and his non-official friends recommended the Governor to increase the assessed rates, rather than have the stamp act. Let me see what the reports say. The *Mail* reports Mr. Whitall to say "if a loan was not desirable there might be an increase of the police and lighting rates," rather than the stamp act. The *Evening* version is—"if it was really necessary to increase the revenue, then he would ask the Council to increase the police and lighting rate." The report in the *Press* is identical. I submit, therefore, that my statement was strictly accurate and not fanciful at all.

Mr. Gibb followed up Mr. Whitall's suggestion by saying that "the community would not object if the police and water rates were doubled, rather than have a stamp act."

Mr. Dent did not propose to use the police rate as a substitute for the act, but he thought that "the half-cost of the gunboat which the home government offered to furnish should be raised out of an increase of the police rates."

This increase of the Police and Lighting rates was the dominant idea among the non-official members, and the Governor distinctly said that "the suggestion to raise more money by doubling the police rates, if the community wished it, should have his serious attention." Evidently the perfect concurrence of opinion among the non-official members, that an increase of the assessed rates was the fairest and easiest mode of raising extra revenue, had much influence on His Excellency's mind, and induced him to pay more attention to the suggestion than it deserves. This is the point which I wished to place before your readers in my last, and the appearance of "Bostonian's" "correction" enables me to reproduce it with additional evidence of its importance to the rate payers.

MEMO.

To the Editor of the "Evening Mail."

SIR,—Leaving to the meeting to be held at the Court house to-morrow, to explain to your correspondent "Memo," and those few others who may possibly be in favour of the Stamp Act, what objections they have to its introduction I would like to make a few remarks with regard to the non-official members of the Legislative Council.

For a number of years after the Legislative Council had been established, the colony was to a large extent dependent upon the subsidy received annually from the mother country, as the Revenue of the colony was not sufficiently large to defray the expenses incurred with a view of rendering this a healthy central point for mercantile as well as for warlike operations. The number of European residents at that time was very small, and it was scarcely necessary that the power of the Governor should meet with any restrictions.

Since then, however, the foreign community has greatly increased in wealth and numbers, the Revenue of the colony has risen considerably, and until lately, when heavy burdens were thrown upon the colony (Military contribution, establishment of the Mint &c.) it was in excess of expenditure, and the colony so far independent of the mother country.

The community might therefore now fairly expect to have at least a limited voice in the administration of its internal affairs. I do not mean to say that the foreign community of Hongkong should claim an equal share in the government of the colony, as has been accorded to every subject in the mother country and in many of the colonies, although they are sometimes but very small; but I think the community is entitled to be represented in the council by at least 7 non-official members, so as to ensure a preponderance of that element which has the largest interest at stake in the good government of the island. However capable and willing the official members of the

council may be to promote the prosperity of the colony, there can be no doubt whatever that those eminent firm now partly represented in the Legislative Council, have at least an equal amount of intelligence, experience, and influence at their command, which ought to be availed of at the making of new ordinances.

Nobody ought to be afraid that the welfare of the colony and the mother country could be affected by any ordinance that might be passed by a Legislative Council, which the colony is more fairly represented, and I will briefly state my reasons for this assertion:

1. The non-official members are appointed by the crown, and there are certainly at least seven intelligent merchants in the colony, to whom the Colonial Secretary might confide a seat and vote in the council with as much safety as to any of his subordinate officials, who now are members ex-officio.

2. If the Council were composed of 14 members the governor as president could still have a casting vote in addition to his own vote as member.

3. If any ordinance, proposed by the governor, should be lost by the opposition of the non-official members, the governor has nevertheless the right to make and promulgate it as an ordinance of the Governor and Legislative Council, even though all the members of the Council, except himself, should have voted against its adoption and passing thereof (vide instructions to the governor of Hongkong 1849 XXIII).

In fact the Governor would always be at liberty to pass an ordinance on his own responsibility.

At present the three non-official members certainly do not hold an enviable position; they may say what they like, they know how hard the Governor will be forward to Mr. Macleay, leaving for the admission of some more non-official members into the Council.—I am Sir your obedient servant.

A. B.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The case of Saffordson, charged with forgery and perjury came off yesterday before F. W. Mitchell, Esq., at the Police Court.

The Court did not rise until 1 past 6 o'clock, so that we had not time to report the trial on our last night's issue, and as full reports have been given of it in the morning papers, we will only mention the nature of the charge and the decision of the Magistrate.

The prosecution was on behalf of Rahim Virji, and charged the prisoner under four counts 1st, with having forged two promissory notes for \$500 each; and 2dly, with having issued the same; 3dly, with conspiracy to cheat and defraud; and 4thly, with perjury, he having falsely sworn at the trial of the case of Saffordson v. Virji before the Summary Jurisdiction Court on the 21st instant.

The prisoner was committed for trial before the Supreme Court, and bail was refused.

Evening Mail, Aug. 23.

SCRATCH FOUR OARED RACES.

The deciding heat was pulled last evening, and a very good race was witnessed by the spectators on shore and afloat. Only two boats being left, a very close race was anticipated.

Mr. Bottomley's Boat made a better start than the other, and got about half a length ahead. This however was made up in about 150 yards by Young's crew, and at half the length of the course, the Boats going bow and bow. Mr. Young then called upon his crew, and by a sharp spurt, they managed to draw ahead. This advantage they kept all through the rest of the course, and although Mr. Bottomley called for a spurt his crew were unable to make up the lost distance and Mr. Young's Boat came in the winner by a length. Time 3 min. 47 sec.

This was one of the best and quickest races which have taken place in Hongkong for some years. Both crews rowed well and pluckily, and the pace was very good considering their want of training.

This ends the first races for Scratch fours in Hongkong, and we heartily congratulate the Regatta Club on the success that attended them. We trust that they will persevere, and that the non rowing part of the community may see many more races as good. H. E. the Governor was present in his barge, and appeared much interested.

Evening Mail, Aug. 23.

There was quite a concourse of people in Queen's Road Central, yesterday afternoon, to see the floggings bestowed upon some culprits. Of these latter there were only six, but about a dozen or so of other galleys were present to witness the proceedings, from which, it is to be hoped, they will take salutary warning. The flagellations were well and energetically applied, but nervous people should rather abstain from being present at it, as it is by no means a pleasant sight.

Evening Mail, Aug. 25.

A CASE recently came before the Mixed Court at Shanghai, in which, says the *Recorder*, it was brought out plainly that the Chelien or district magistrate had, for a consideration, granted to certain parties the exclusive right of leasing the services of coolies for labour at the various wharves and jetties, public and private, and that these monopolists interfered with the free employment of native labour by foreigners, in such a manner as to raise considerably beyond the market rate the wages of such labourers, and otherwise exercise undue control over them while so employed. This is in direct violation of the 12th article of

Tientsin treaty, which is to the effect that "The Chinese government will place no restriction whatever upon the employment by British subjects of Chinese subjects, in any lawful capacity." To such an extent, however, has this clause been disregarded, that in the case in question, the defendants, backed by a body of armed followers, attempted to forcibly interfere with a coolie of independent views, who declined to acknowledge their sway. They were heavily fined, and the decision of the court will probably tend to suppress such interference with sight the cool labour.

Evening Mail, Aug. 25.

IN MEMORIAM.—The accounts of expenditure in erecting the column at Shanghai in memory of the officers and men who fell in Gordon's campaigns, have been published. The total expenditure is \$1522, a balance remaining in hand of \$180. It may be said that the monument has been erected at Chinese cost, as His Excellency Le Tait gave \$1500 toward it. The monument is pronounced by a local authority to be utterly unworthy of praise, either as a work of art, or as an intended memorial of honor to brave men. It is erected upon one of the most prominent sites on the bund and is therefore a still more extravagant outrage upon the good taste of the community.

Evening Mail, Aug. 28.

WE announced a few days since that the new half dollar had been issued from the Mint, and our contemporary the *Daily Press* is pleased to comment on the absence of fact, as he terms it, in that and various other announcements we have made. We are sorry that the new half dollars have not reached his office, but can assure him that facts are on our side in this instance. Some half dollars have been issued from the mint in exchange for bank notes; we have, however, no reason to believe that any number required is obtainable simply upon application, nor did we imply that in our former notice.

Evening Mail, Aug. 28.

THE office of assistant and accountant to the Legation in Japan has been vacant by the death of Mr. J. Macdonald; Mr. E. G. Sartoris has been appointed to be on attached; and Mr. E. Egau to be a student interpreter in China.

Evening Mail, August 3.

NINETEEN boxes of bar silver said to belong to the Agra and Masterman's Bank, were seized by the sheriff, M. S. Tomlinson, Esq., on board the *Northorn* just as she was on the point of leaving with the mail. Is another Bank complication at hand?

Evening Mail, Aug. 28.

In a late issue of the *Evening Mail*, we noticed that a Mr. Rowan had been knocked down by a gang of Chinamen and an attempt made to rob him, while he was walking along Queen's Road, a little West of the British Hotel, about 8 A.M.

Last evening at the same hour or a little later, the Captain of some steamer was knocked down and robbed in the same place.

We have not been able to learn the particulars of the damage done or the name of the party.

Evening Mail, Aug. 28.

THE Gallows is again rearing its head in the rear of the Gaol compound; for to-morrow morning it will be worked out for its Cheong Chat Tai, the criminal to be executed, has recently evinced a little more disposition to be communicative, but does not appear thus far to have made any disclosures worthy of notice. From his present disposition, however, it is just possible that he may make a kind of confession before he pays the penalty of his crimes.

Evening Mail, Aug. 29.

THERE was a smaller number of spectators present at the execution of Cheong Chat Tai, this morning, than is usual on such occasions. Precisely at 6 o'clock the criminal was conducted to the scaffold; a Chinese Catholic priest there took leave of him, and immediately afterwards the Sheriff made a sign, but for a few seconds there appeared some obstruction in the fall of the drop, which however, by a jerk energetically applied to it, gave way. The fall of the body, although sudden and from a tolerable height, did not appear to have the effect of extinguishing life at once, as convulsive motions continued for several minutes subsequent to the bolt being drawn. It may be, therefore, said that Cheong Chat Tai, the pirate and probable murderer, died hard.

Among the spectators in Arbuthnot road a European, fainting about ten minutes before the execution took place, probably from the effects of over excitement in anticipation of the scene shortly to be enacted—and the exceedingly sultry weather. It is reported that Cheong Chat Tai has made a confession of his guilt to the Rev. Dr. Legge.

Evening Mail, Aug. 29.

WE learn that H. E. the Governor has consented to postpone the meeting of the Legislative Council relative to the Stamp Act until Friday next, at 3 P.M. The community appear to think that a somewhat longer delay might be accorded under the circumstances.

Evening Mail, Aug. 29.

A CONVICT, employed in the Chaiwang, endeavored to escape near Queen's Road Central, this afternoon at 2 o'clock, but before he could effect his purpose, he was shot dead by one of the guards. An inquest will be held on his body in the course of to-morrow.

Evening Mail, Aug. 29.

The first business before the Court this morning was to swear in thirteen Chinamen, who had recently joined the Water

Police force, at the head of which is Inspector Manoel da Silva. These men have pretty hard work, considering they must be at it day and night. Wages of \$6.80 to \$8. and for Sergeants from \$9 to \$13; seems scarcely sufficient for such labor, accompanied as it sometimes is by considerable risk to limb and life. The Lokons, employed on shore, get \$10, and the Sergeants \$15, and have perhaps less to do and are not incurring the dangers of the Water Police men do. The former, independent of higher pay, are altogether privileged beings in comparison to the latter.—The question forces itself upon one, why should this be so? Point d'argent, point de Suisse, is a well known French saying, and it is quite certain that unless this important branch of the police force is more liberally remunerated, "good men and true" will keep aloof from it, or all who remain in it will feel that they are better themselves by meeting with different employment.

Evening Mail, Aug. 18.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY.

THE third annual general meeting of the Shareholders in this Company was held at three P.M. this day in the Club Chambers. There was a good attendance. The chair was taken by H. Deacon, Esq.

The Secretary J. S. Laprak, Esq. read the report, which contained a recommendation that a dividend be declared, at the rate of 14 per cent per annum, on paid up capital of \$495,050.

The following resolutions were then carried unanimously *scilicet*.

1.—Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Geo. D. Holland, Esq.—That the report be adopted.

2.—Proposed by Hon. J. C. Whyte, Esq. seconded by J. Hart, Esq.—That Messrs. Smith, Bosman and D. Laprak be re-elected on the committee, and that the Hon. J. A. Whitall and Mr. Geo. B. Holland be appointed to act in the same capacity in the place of the Hon. Thos. Sutherland and Mr. R. Deacon resigned.

3.—Proposed by G. H. Heaton, Esq., seconded by the Hon. J. C. Whyte, That a bonus of \$4000 be tendered to the members of the committee for their zeal and services to the company for the past year.

4.—Proposed by Mr. Bosman, seconded by Mr. Cheverton. That the present meeting be adjourned until 12th September and copies of proposed new deed of settlement be furnished to shareholders for perusal.

5.—Proposed by Geo. J. Holland, Esq., seconded by O. H. Burrows, Esq. That a special vote of thanks be given to the Hon. Thos. Sutherland and D. Laprak, Esq. for their great exertions in the interest of the company.

A vote of thanks was then passed to the chairman and the meeting separated.

We subjoin an abstract of the Balance sheet.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

For the Year ending 30th June, 1866.

WHAMPOA DOCK, WHAMPOA

Assets, ...\$638,577.39 Liabilities, ...\$606,496.89

Profit, ...\$32,080.50

ABERDEEN DOCK.

Assets, ...\$453,540.19 Liabilities, ...\$406,131.82

Profit, ...\$47,408.37

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

Dr. To Sundries \$304,550 By Gross amount of earnings of Whampoa and Aberdeen Docks from 1st July 1865 to June 30th 1866, ...\$384,038

Profit, ...79,488

\$384,038

THE EMBARGO ON RICE AT TAIWAN.

MEETING OF CONSULS AT AMOY.

A GENERAL discussion was held at Amoy the 9th day of July 1866, at the request of W. P. Jones, Esq., United States Consul at Amoy, by the Consuls who represent the Treaty Powers at Amoy, on the illegality of the continued embargo on Rice at Taiwan and the difficulties that have arisen at Amoy in consequence. Specially with reference to the present case of the United States schooner *Tenilee*.

The case of the *Tenilee* as put by Mr. Jones, was thus. "The *Taotai* at Taiwan, so long ago as September 1864, issued a proclamation prohibiting the export of Rice from Taiwan and Takaow. This prohibition in the first instance was illegal and in the face of the treaty would never be justifiable except in cases of extreme exigency; and even then to have made it apply to the property of foreigners, the approval and recognition of the foreign consuls should have been obtained. This prohibition has never been sanctioned by the higher authorities. It has been repeatedly protested against, both by foreign merchants and by consuls at Taiwan and Takaow. This prohibition, by the aid of the foreign Consuls as affecting foreign vessels, while the Chinese junks, even under the frequent personal observations of H. B. Consul, and notwithstanding unceasing protests and declarations on the part of foreign merchants daily cognizant of such violation of the prohibition, have, with the connivance of the authorities, been free throughout the greatest part of the two years of the embargo, to export the prohibited article, without let or hindrance. Lately, Mr. Waters, who is Acting British Consul at Taiwan, had another interview with the Chinese Authorities and demanded the withdrawal of the embargo; to which he received a reply, that so soon as the commodity fell in price to \$2.50 a picul, the embargo might be considered at an end. On his return from Taiwan to Takaow he found rice at \$1.80 per picul. He wrote word to the Mandarins and asked for the fulfillment of their word. The Mandarins would not remove the embargo. The merchants and Mr. Waters were exasperated, and an attempt was made to force the question by exporting a small cargo of rice belonging to the British merchants, Mr. Phail & Co. from Takaow in the British schooner *Pearl* under the protection of H. B. M. gunboat *Grasshopper*. The *Pearl* was lost on her voyage to Amoy, and the question consequently did not end at that accession came to an end. With the Customs Authorities at Amoy. The loss however of the *Pearl* not being known at Takaow, it was supposed that the difficulty at Amoy would have been raised and set at rest by the precedent in her case, and Messrs. McPhail & Co. applied

to the Customs for permission to ship another cargo to Amoy by the United States schooner *Tenilee*. The Customs refused permission, and the papers of the *Tenilee* being lodged at the British Consulate (there being no United States Consul at Takaow), the bond required by the 5th Rule (III) of the Rules appended to the British Tariff, to guarantee that the rice was for export to a Chinese port only, was entered into before the British Acting Consul and his sanction procured to the shipment. The Chinese gunboat *Fohatser* was at the time at Takaow with the *Chintai* for Fomosa on board. The Commissioner of Customs called on the *Chintai* and on the Mandarin commanding the *Fohatser*, to assist him in seizing the *Tenilee*. This assistance the Mandarins declined to give. The *Fohatser* was herself loading with Rice and has since come to Amoy with the prohibited commodity. The Rice has been sold in Amoy, and it is well known for the most part on private account. On arrival of the *Tenilee* at Amoy the Customs sealed up her hatches and recommended the *Tai-kwai* to insist on the confiscation of her cargo, on the plea that she had not conformed to the Customs Rules at Takaow, had come to Amoy without Chinese clearance and other papers and was thereby guilty of an irregularity.

The question was discussed by the following Consuls.

Robert Swinhoe, Esq., H.B.M. Consul at Amoy.

F. T. Gisbert, Esq., H.C.M. Consul at Amoy.

T. C. Wardlaw, Esq., vice Consul for France and Consul for Portugal.

E. I. M. Vice Consul Amoy.

T. A. Deacon, Esq., H.N.M.'s vice Consul.

C. Kruger, Esq., Acting Prussian vice Consul.

W. P. Jones, Esq., U.S. Consul; and as the matter in dispute is considered of international importance, and affecting the interests of all the Treaty Powers alike, the following resolutions were unanimously subscribed to.

Resolution I. That we consider that no Chinese Authority has the right to interfere with the export or import of the property of foreign merchants, such goods not being declared contraband by the Treaty.

Resolution II. That the export of rice, the property of foreign merchants, so long as the conditions enjoined by Rule 5th III. of the Rules appended to the British Tariff are complied with, cannot be prohibited in foreign vessels by a Chinese Authority without the sanction of the Foreign Consuls, which would doubtless be obtained in cases of real exigency, subject to the approval of the ministers at Peking. For his opinion the rule for consular government is to recognize no restrictions or departures from the authorized Treaties and Tariff unless first submitted to by the Ministers and notified officially through them to the Consuls.

Resolution III. That the *Taotai* at Taiwan in prohibiting foreign vessels from exporting rice, the property of foreign merchants, was guilty of a breach of the Treaty, which should have been met by protests on the part of the Consuls and the merchants.

Resolution IV. That frequent and constant protests having been carried to the said *Taotai*, his nevertheless insisting on maintaining the embargo for the space of nearly two years, in the face of the fact that the plea of dearth or price which might have justified him in the first place in preventing his subjects from exporting the commodity, did not hold good in the present cheap rate of rice, and called for more decisive action.

Resolution V. That the said *Taotai* in conniving at Chinese junks exporting rice from Takaow, though such cases were repeatedly brought to his notice, and insisting upon the Customs enforcing a strict control of the instructions of the said *Taotai*, was guilty of a breach of the Treaty, which should have been met by protests on the part of the Consuls and the merchants.

Resolution VI. That the said *Taotai* has been induced by bribes and false representations as to the price of rice, by the Taiwan rice guild, who are also large junk owners, to issue the prohibition and to maintain it throughout to the favor of Chinese junks, and the detriment of foreign shipping.

Resolution VII. That Mr. Thomas Waters in the cases of the *Pearl* and *Tenilee*, was justified in the steps which he has taken, to bring the long vexed question to an issue.

Resolution VIII. That the illegality in not having the *Tenilee* provided with documents in form required by the treaty was on the part of the Customs at Takaow, who in obedience to the instructions of the said *Taotai*, and in spite of the Treaty refused to issue such documents and to sanction the shipments.

Resolution IX. That we unite in resisting the confiscation of the *Tenilee*'s cargo, and of all cargoes shipped under similar circumstances, and to protect vessels so employed from fine and other harm on the part of the Customs, until the question shall have been decided by reference to the ministers of the various Treaty Powers at Peking.

Resolution X. That if the Customs at Amoy consent to the landing of the *Tenilee*'s cargo, they have a right to claim the duty on the rice, which should have been collected at its port of shipment.

Resolution XI. That we see no objection to a bond being given by the consignees of the *Tenilee*'s cargo, guaranteeing the cost value of the rice to the Customs should the ministers at Peking decide on its confiscation. This virtually removes the question in dispute at once from ourselves to our several chiefs at Peking, to whom in any case the question would have to be referred, and we will be prepared to regard the present determination of the case of the *Tenilee* as a precedent for any severance in future similar cases until the matter shall have been finally decided by the high authorities residing at the Chinese Capital.

Resolution XII. Lastly that we use and all address our several ministers on this important question and submit to each a copy of these our unanimous resolutions.

Signed and sealed,

ROBERT SWINHOE, H.B.M. Consul at Amoy.

F. T. GISBERT, Consular Espana en Amoy.

J. C. WARDLAW, H. I. M. Vice Consul Amoy.

EDWARD LYE, H. I. M. Vice Consul at Amoy.

CESAR KRUGER, Acting Prussian Vice Consul.

JOHN PATERSON, H. N. M. Vice Consul.

T. C. WARDLAW, Consul for Portugal.

cent. Computed by Mr JOHN V. Y
New York.

PRICE ONE DOLLAR.

"China Mail" Office,
12th May, 1864.



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